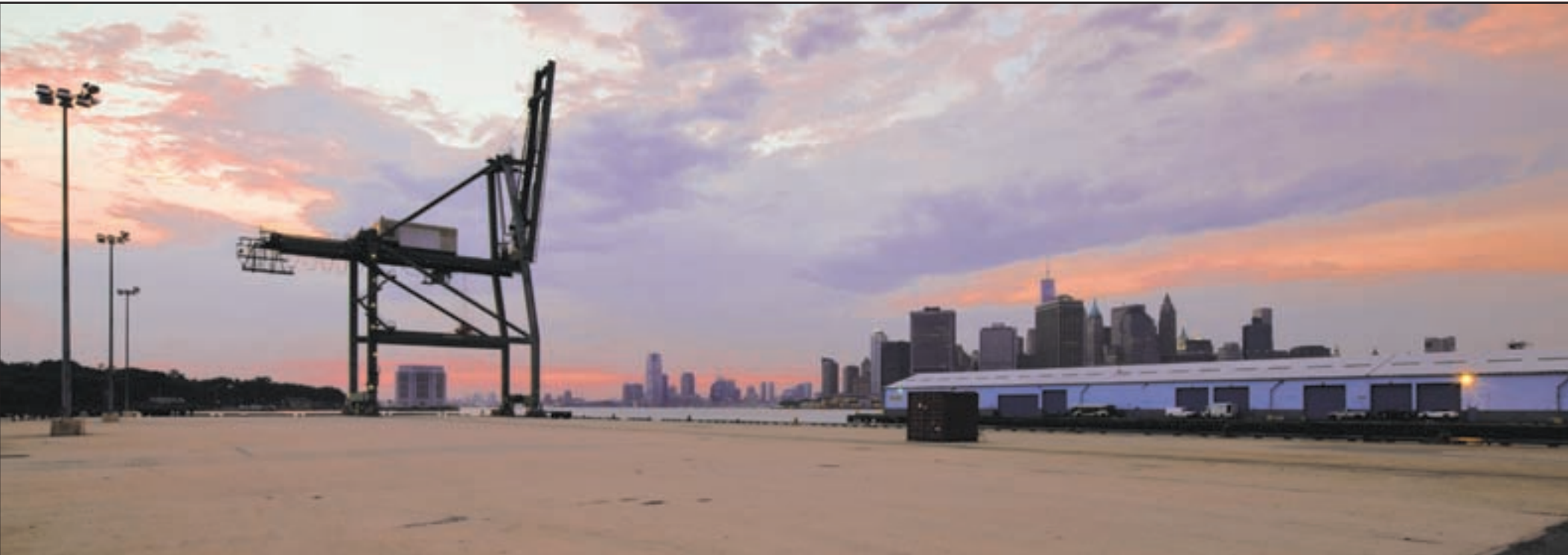


The Brooklyn Paper

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A two-day music festival is scheduled to take over the Red Hook Container Terminal in October, but it is unclear how much money, if any, the Port Authority will make from it.

PORT OF GALL

As waterfront shifts from industry to nightlife destination, Red Hookers, pols sound alarm

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

Drop the bass!
The transformation of a Red Hook port facility into a booming nightclub for three nights this month and the next is a disruption that poses a threat to all of Brooklyn's working waterfront, according to neighbors backed by pols from around the borough, who are demanding that the terminal operator stop renting it out for events, however lucrative.
"There are many uses that would pay more rent than maritime commerce. We hold the port in public ownership precisely because we want to protect those maritime and industrial uses," a group of pols wrote in an open letter to the Port Authority.
The signatories included Congress-

man Jerrold Nadler (D–Bensonhurst), state Sen. Daniel Squadron (D–Dumbo), outgoing Assemblywoman Joan Millman (D–Brooklyn Heights), Councilman Carlos Menchaca (D–Sunset Park), and Councilman Brad Lander (D–Gowanus). The letter was a response to Red Hook Container Terminal shindigs such as the Sept. 12 electronic-music dance party thrown by Vice Media and Absolut Vodka, for which organizers hung a disco ball made of television screens from one of the waterfront cranes. That bash drew more than 1,000 revelers and, in addition to the deindustrialization it represents, it was a serious headache, neighbors said.
For instance, some party-goers decided to empty their bladders outside when the event let out at 11 pm, accord-

ing to one neighbor who attended.
"It was a s--- show. People were urinating all up and down Columbia Street, and I screamed at them," said Victoria Hagman, a member of Red Hook's Community Board 6 and founder of the real estate firm Realty Collective, speaking last week at a community board meeting on the subject.
The drinks were way too strong, Hagman added.
"I had a good time, but someone's gonna die," she said.
Locals, who emphasized they have adjusted to the rumbling inherent in living shoulder to shoulder with the sprawling dock operation when it is functioning as normal, complained that bass from Vice subwoofers, the chattering of the crowd that spilled onto the street, and



(Left) Community Board 6 member Victoria Hagman said a recent Vice Media party at Red Hook Container Terminal, while fun, was a disaster.



(Right) John Llantonio of the Port Authority, center, and Greg Brayman, right, who runs the container terminal, field questions at a community board meeting in Red Hook on Sept. 17.

the drones zipping across the sky to film the party rattled their nerves.
The two-day Escape Music Festival is set to drop anchor at the port facility starting on Oct. 11, featuring big-ticket acts such as Moby and Yeasayer. The area's Community Board 6 invited residents to sound off to port honchos at the meeting, held on Sept. 17. Neighbors who attended said that the high-

decibel affairs, which started happening with limited notice, have to be turned down. For what?
"Twelve hours straight of drums two days in a row is too much," said Dave Lutz, who lives near the corner of Van Brunt Street and Hamilton Avenue, a stone's throw from the port. "I don't object to cultural events, but there needs to be more control. This

is a family neighborhood."
Word of the Vice party didn't reach many until the community board announced it via e-mail on Sept. 8. Promoters began publicizing the Escape Music Festival in August.
The Port Authority rents the terminal to a private operator, which has been booking the bashes. A company owner
See **PORT** on page 12



It started as an adult pinewood derby, but 20 years in, Brooklyn Gravity Racers draws all ages.

Fruit of the zoom

W'burgers face off at adult pinewood derby

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

They may not be Boy Scouts, but they have mastered the art of the pinewood derby.
More than 100 artists, amateur engineers, and spectators turned out to The Boiler art gallery on N. 14th Street in Williamsburg last week for Brooklyn Gravity Racers, an adult take on the classic Cub Scouts race, which is a micro version of the soapbox derby. The four-day event pushed racers' craftiness to the limit with exacting rules and a packed lineup of veteran speed demons. The festivities coincided with the 20th anniversary of Pierogi, The Boiler's parent gallery on N. Seventh Street, which has been hosting the adult pinewood derbies once every five years since it opened.
One participant said she relishes the races, more for the challenge and camaraderie than the competition.
"It is fun to do a mini-engineering project and spend time with this wonderful artist community,"

said Mary Ziegler, who has been involved from the start.
The grown-up version of the derby bends the Cub Scouts rules a bit — allowing 10-inch long vehicles, whereas the Scouts require racers to carve their cars out of 6-inch blocks of wood. The ad hoc league also allows for cars heavier than five ounces, but places them



in a separate "Heavy Weight" class, which this year featured an un-race-able 16-pound ride. Under the gallery's regulations, only the featherweight buggies qualify for the coveted Speed Award. And, because these are artists we're dealing with, there are two award cat-

egories for looks — Aesthetic, and What Were You Thinking.
But on some things, organizers hew to the Scouts rules as closely as a race car hugging a high-banked turn, keeping the width between wheels at a strict 1.75 in. and the bottom clearance at .375 in., which allows cars to traverse the wooden track without rubbing.
Cub Scouts race annually, but the adult derby only takes place twice every decade because it requires so much time, energy, and resources to organize without the backing of the Boy Scouts of America, Pierogi co-owner Joe Amrhein said.
"It is so much work to put this together, and we do it out of our own pocket money," said Amrhein. "Once every five years seems to be the right number for us."
This year racers submitted cars



(Above) Mary Ziegler gets ready to drop the bomb. (Inset) A pinewood derby car lets its pollution flag fly.

adorned with such odd accessories as syringes, bubblegum, and a bottle full of water from the Gowanus Canal.
The 16-pounder, a long ride sporting an improbable row of hot-rod engine blocks sculpted out of brass, was a favorite of Amrhein's.
"It was too heavy to be safe," he said. "But I loved the way it looked."
Ziegler used the same car that she made for the last Boiler pinewood derby in 2009, but she fine-tuned it by adding weights to the

body and tinkering with the tilt of the wheels. She won her first race and came in near the front of the pack in four others amid stiff competition.
"People take the engineering of these cars very seriously," she said.
Amrhein is considering putting on races in other cities such as Los Angeles and Berlin to form an artsy, possibly international tournament circuit, he said.
"Having a race-off between cities seems like it would be a crazy and fun idea," he said.

Wheeling and dealing

Boro business group deploys roving consulting van

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce is now offering house calls for small businesses.
The business-booster group and the Council are rolling out a new van that will drop in on companies around the borough and offer consultations owners would otherwise have to leave their stores to get. A Crown Heights business owner said the new mobile services would help save him the inconvenience of an office visit.
"I have to decide where best to spend my time," said Fred Powell, who has owned Barbara's Flower Shop on Bergen Street for 43 years. "Going down to an office, or serving my customers."
The businessmobile can help small business owners apply for credit, grapple with city regulations, and recruit new workers, among other things. Housed in a white minivan donated by AllCar Rent-a-Car, "Chamber on the Go" is adorned with Chamber of Commerce decals and staffed by cham-



Fred Powell has owned Barbara's Flower Shop off of Nostrand Avenue for 43 years. He says the mobile services will be a big help.

ber employees.
Powell said he could use help with his marketing, another specialty of the enterprise whisperers.
"After 43 years, a lot of my old customers have left the neighborhood for one reason or another," he said. "I have

to kind of reinvent myself."
The idea for the mobile unit came from Councilman Robert Cornegy (D–Bedford-Stuyvesant), who helped secure \$400,000 in taxpayer money from the Council for a citywide small-business street team. Brooklyn will be the test service area for the program. The freshman councilman said he was amazed to learn about the range of services the city had to offer small businesses, but when he went out in his district to talk to proprietors he found that they were having trouble accessing them.
"This program is about meeting the direct needs of what the people on the ground told me," he said.
The first commercial strip treated by the businessmobile will be Nostrand Avenue, near where Powell's flower shop is located. Chamber president Carlo Scisura said his office would target areas that do not have business improvement districts and are struggling.
"We're going to start by helping the businesses with the greatest needs and most limited time," he said.



The Chamber of Commerce is rolling out a new house-call van to help reach small businesses that do not have the time to visit its Downtown office.

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NYU ditches LICH deal

Sale in question as redevelopment partner turns tail

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

They're pulling the plug on this emergency room.

New York University backed out of its role as a medical partner in the redevelopment scheme aimed at turning the former Long Island College Hospital campus into luxury housing with a healthcare component. The announcement came after a judge expanded the scope of a lawsuit brought by healthcare worker unions claiming the university's Langone Medical Center was failing to hire former employees of the Cobble Hill hospital, as mandated by a court settlement that gave the state the green light to close and sell the hospital. The union lawsuit originally targeted only the state, which still controls the prime real estate the hospital once occupied, but last Thursday a judge said New York University and developer Fortis Property Group also bear responsibility. A state spokesman said the university's about-face throws the whole sale into jeopardy.

"A highly complicated healthcare transaction that would have brought world-class patient services and jobs to Brooklyn and was many months in the making unraveled. There are no winners," said State University of New York spokesman David Doyle. "The future of the facility is uncertain."

The \$240 million sale of Long Island College Hospital to Williamsburg developer Fortis Property Group was finally approved on July 1 after more than a year of protests and legal wrangling with activists and staffers over who the buyer should be and what type of medical care would remain at the site. New York University was to run the healthcare facilities, but decided to withdraw from the takeover bid rather than deal with additional court headaches.

"It is clear to us that we will be unable to conclude the transaction, and



The state has kept the lights on at the former Long Island College Hospital emergency room since closing the medical center on May 22, but it is unclear how much longer it will do so.

provide the highest quality medical and nursing care that is our standard, even with the best of intentions and the commitment of the full resources of our institution," said a New York University spokeswoman.

A rep for the developer said it is searching for a new medical partner but would not comment beyond that.

One of the healthcare worker unions that is suing condemned the university for evading the prescriptions of the court settlement and, now, leaving everyone in the lurch.

"NYU has walked away from its commitment to Brooklyn patients," said Jill Furillo, executive director of the New York State Nurses Association. "NYU's unwillingness to live up

to the commitments made in the proposal at this early stage in the process was a terrible omen for the future of care for the community served by LICH. How could LICH patients trust NYU to live up to any of its commitments in the long run if NYU was already failing to keep its word?"

The new medical facility was supposed to include a freestanding emergency department, observation beds, primary and preventative care offices, nine specialty departments, an ambulatory surgery center, and a human immunodeficiency virus clinic.

But that, along with the sale to Fortis and the state's continued operation of an extant emergency department, is now in question.

Next week, we think pink!

Our special edition for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The Brooklyn Paper

Make sure to pick up a copy of next week's issue marking Breast Cancer Awareness Month — it could save your life.

Our Oct. 3 special edition will report on developments in treatment, prevention, and more, as we help to spread the word about the second-leading killer of women in the U.S.

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Our interview with a breast cancer



expert touches on the medical milestones of the last 40 years, and our inspiring stories about patients and survivors speak to the courage of the human spirit.

Next week's issue — presented in collaboration with our sponsors and supporters — Maimonides Medical Center, Eastchester Center for Cancer Care, The Estee Lauder Companies, Winthrop University Hospital, Flushing Hospital Medical Center, and Queens County Savings Bank — is a must-read, so remember to pick up a copy next Friday!

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Mass mussed as thief lifts church laptop

84TH PRECINCT
Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown
A lowlife swiped a laptop from the second floor of a Sidney Place church on Sept. 14, the authorities said.

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am, the computer was gone, police said.

Cut-rate prices
Cops cuffed a man who they say stole a bunch of shoes from a Fulton Street department store on Sept. 8.

A 29-year-old employee of the store between Bridge and Duffield streets reported he saw the suspect enter the store at 5:30 pm and start taking things off the shelves. Police arrived and arrested the 50-year-old suspect, who they say grabbed \$1,125 worth of shoes.

Man down
A couple of degenerates stole a man's cellphone on York Street on Sept. 7, and when he chased them he tripped and fell, according to the authorities.

The 60-year-old victim said he was between Navy and Gold streets at 7 pm when two galoofs came up from behind, bumped him, and took the phone he was using. The scalawags took off and the victim gave chase, but he tripped and fell, injuring his knee, cops said.

NYPD bruised
Police arrested a couple of fellows who they say roughed up an officer at the Jay Street–MetroTech subway station on Sept. 10 for no good reason.

The officer who got hit said he was in the station at 1 pm when the pair came over.

“You’re a cop,” one said, and both set upon the officer, according to a report.

The beating continued

POLICE BLOTTER

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until backup arrived and slapped the cuffs on the two guys, both of whom are 26, the report says.

Parting gift
A pickpocket stole a woman's phone as she was boarding a train in the Atlantic Avenue–Barclays Center station on Sept. 10, cops said.

The 14-year-old victim said she was getting on a Brooklyn-bound N train at 4:10 pm when the no-goodnik pushed her from behind and took the cellphone out of her back pocket. The spunky teen chased the fiend, but lost him when he jumped on a train, police said.

Left the station
A cretin stole an elderly man's wallet while he waited for a train in the Jay Street–MetroTech station on Sept. 10, police said.

The 90-year-old victim said he took an F train from the Seventh Avenue station at 5:45 pm, and got off at the Downtown stop to transfer to the A. As he boarded an arriving train, the sneak brushed him from behind and stepped back onto the platform, according to a police report.

The victim turned around in time to see the doors close and the thief stalk off, law enforcement officials said.

The wallet contained debit, credit, and insurance cards, cops said.

The Daily Lose
A tricky thief distracted a guy with a newspaper and stole his wallet off a cafeteria table inside a MetroTech Center school on Sept. 10, police reported.

The 27-year-old victim said that he was eating lunch in the school between the Myrtle Avenue promenade and Johnson Street at 3:10 pm and left his wallet sitting on the table in front of him. The unassuming thief came over and told him he could win \$5 by reading an article in a newspaper he handed him, according to a police report.

As he was reading, the sneak slipped away his wallet and left, the authorities said. The wallet contained \$3 in cash, debit and credit cards, and identification, cops said.

Pay the fine
A crook burgled a man's car on Warren Street while he was in court on Sept. 11, police said.

The 35-year-old victim said he parked his car on the sidewalk between Smith and Court streets at 9:11 am, and that when he returned at 2 pm his passenger-side door

was damaged and his things were gone.

The burglar made off with \$1,300 in cash, three gold rings, and three gold necklaces, per officers.

Teen terror
A 14-year-old girl slashed another teen in the face on a Bridge Street sidewalk on Sept. 11, cops said.

The victim, also 14, said she was between York and Prospect streets at 8:35 pm when she and the blade-packing girl got into a fight and knifed her, according to a police report.

Emergency personnel transported the victim to Brooklyn Hospital Center, NYPD officials said.

Stroller roller
A thief took a woman's wallet that she left in a stroller parked in a vestibule on Atlantic Avenue with a bunch of other strollers on Sept. 13, police stated.

The 36-year-old victim said she left the stroller unattended in the entrance to a children's gym between Court Street and Boerum Place at 9:25 am. When she returned at 10:15 am, the wallet, containing \$60 in cash, and debit, credit, and gift cards, was gone, police said.

88TH PRECINCT
Fort Greene–Clinton Hill
Funny money
Cops cuffed a man who they say tried to pass fake bills to a Greene Avenue bodega clerk on Sept. 20, then threatened the clerk with a pair of scissors when he refused to take it.

The deli worker said that the suspect came into his store between Grand Avenue and Cambridge Place at 4:45 pm and bought a pack of cigarettes and a lighter. The clerk then noticed something funny about the money and demanded the items back, police said.

The accused refused and brandished the blades, then scrambled with the money and the smokes, according to a law enforcement account. An officer then saw the suspect, who is 43 years old, in front of the store arguing with a cab driver, also about using fake bills, the report relates. The cop arrested the man and found a crack pipe on him, according to police.

Burglaries
The authorities reported three burglaries in the precinct this week. They come on the heels of two on Fort Greene Place that police logged last week. Here's the rundown:

- First, a burglar hit a home on Fulton Street on Sept. 15, making off with some electronics, cops said.
- The 45-year-old victim, who is visiting from Brazil, said he left the building between Saint James Place and Cambridge Place at 10 am, and did not return until 10 pm. When he got back he noticed the apartment door and the living room window, which leads to the fire escape, open, officers said. When the victim scoped the scene further he found that his laptop and electronic tablet were gone, the authorities said.
- The next day, a sneak pushed in an air conditioning unit and stole a bike and other items from a Classon Avenue apartment, cops said.

The owner reported he left the building between Madison Street and Putnam Avenue at 11:30 am, and came home at 2 pm to find his camera, cellphone, some cash, and a bike all taken.

- Then, on Sept. 20, a pugnacious prowler punched in a window on Clinton Avenue, reached into the apartment, and stole a laptop, according to a police report.

The 28-year-old victim, who lives between DeKalb and Lafayette avenues, said the guy punctured the portal with his bare hand at 9:50 pm, grabbed the computer, and jumped a gate and ran away.

Teen terror
Cops cuffed three teens for allegedly stealing a laptop from a Fulton Street coffee shop patron on Sept. 18, and then threatening him once he got the computer back, according to a police report.

The 48-year-old cafe patron said he was working in the establishment between Saint James and Cambridge places at 1:28 pm when the group of youths came in and took his device. He chased them five blocks to Washington Avenue between Willoughby and DeKalb avenues, and managed to grab his property back from one of the suspects, the authorities recounted.

The teens then crowded around the victim, threatening him, before cops arrived and arrested them, officers stated.

The suspects are 18, 16, and 15 years old, according to an account.

Bench pressed
A group of degenerates beat up a man who was sitting on a bench in S. Oxford Park on Sept. 15 and robbed him of his cellphone, police said.

The 18-year-old victim said he was just sitting in the park near the corner of Atlantic Avenue and S. Oxford Street at 6:30 pm when the group approached him.

The toughs pummelled him in the face, took the gadget, and took off, cops said.

Park disgrace
A thief stole \$10 from a woman's purse as he threatened her with an unknown object near Fort Greene Park on Sept. 18, cops said.

The 25-year-old victim said she was walking near the corner of Washington Park and Willoughby Street at 10:30 pm when the villain came over and jammed his hand in her purse.

“Where's your wallet? Don't look at me,” the bandit barked, per police.

He found the \$10, then pressed an object to her head and demanded more, according to a report. When nothing more was forthcoming, the fiend ran off into the park, officers said.

Food fight
Authorities arrested a man who supposedly fought a DeKalb Avenue deli worker over some lunch on Sept. 21.

The worker said the suspect came into the store between Fort Greene Place and Saint Felix Street at 11:50 am and ordered a sandwich, chips, and a soda, but refused to pay.

The cashier tried to take the items back, but the accused fought with him, cops said.

The worker eventually did reclaim the edibles when cops arrived and cuffed the 28-year-old, police said.

Car raid, sirens
Cops cuffed a man who they say broke into the key storage box of an Ashland Place parking lot on Sept. 21 and started rummaging through parked cars.

An attendant at the lot between DeKalb Avenue and Fulton Street said he saw the suspect on a security camera at 8:26 am breaking into the box full of car keys, then going through customers' cars.

He alerted the authorities and officers showed up and arrested the 31-year-old suspect, cops said.

Police also reported that the man resisted arrest, injuring an officer, and that they found a bag of marijuana on the suspect after the arrest.

Snooze, lose
A sneak thief stole a woman's laptop and cellphone by cutting her backpack open while she slept on the subway on Sept. 21, cops said.

The 25-year-old victim said she had the items in her bag when she left for school, taking an F train from Queens to the Carroll Street subway station.

She transferred to a Queens-bound G and got off at the Clinton-Washington station, then walked to her school on Saint James Place between Lafayette Avenue and Clifton Place, cops said.

It wasn't until she arrived at 7:05 am that she noticed her bag had been sliced open and the items removed, police said.

— Matthew Perlman

68TH PRECINCT
Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights
Beat-fast
Two galoofs beat up a guy and stole his phone and wallet on 82nd Street early on the morning of Sept. 21, cops said.

The victim had just parked his car between Fifth and Sixth avenues at 6:05 am when the two goons pushed him to the ground and started punching and kicking him, police said.

The lowlives took their victim's phone and wallet, then scrambled, a report states.

Pain in the glass
A burglar who broke into a 92nd Street home through a rear window sometime between Sept. 12 and Sept. 15 stole \$12,740 in jewelry, law enforcement officials said.

The victim left the house between Colonial Road and Ridge Boulevard at 7:40 am on Friday and returned at 7:15 am on Monday to find her gems jacked, police said.

Cat's meow
A cat burglar who broke into a 96th Street home through a second-story window on Sept. 17 made off with \$74,500 in jewelry.

The resident left her home between Marine and Third avenues at 11 am, but when she returned at 2:10 pm, she saw someone had climbed through the window and looted her jewels, reports state.

— Max Jaeger

94TH PRECINCT
Greenpoint–Northside
Jacked in a car
A pair of testy robbers mugged a guy as he was sitting in his car on Jackson Street on Sept. 17, cops said.

The victim said that he was sitting in his car at the corner of Debevoise Avenue at 8:30 pm when two goons approached his car from either side, one toting a gun.

“Give me your s--- or I will shoot you,” the fiend on the driver's side said.

The scoundrel then reached in and stole the victim's necklace, watch, cellphone, and cash, and his partner grabbed the victim's watch, according to a report.

Sunburnt
A lowlife stole a woman's purse as he lounged in McCarren Park on Sept. 14, law enforcement officials said.

The victim said she sat down in the grass at 10 pm and set her bag next to her, and when she got up to leave the park about an hour later, it had been pilfered. The bag contained the woman's iPhone, credit cards, makeup, and cash, according to cops.

Flirt with theft
A gang of women stole a man's bag after stopping to flirt with him on N. Fourth Street on Sept. 20, police stated.

The victim said he was taking pictures of the East River from the corner of Kent Avenue at 3:40 pm when the ladies came up to shoot the breeze.

Out of the corner of his eye, he saw one of the tricksters grab his camera bag, then jump into a cab, officers reported.

The bag contained his Nikon tripod, wallet, book, and cash, a report recounts.

— Danielle Furfaro



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Friends in high places

Heights prep school expands into Downtown tower

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

This circle of friends just got bigger. Brooklyn Friends School, a 147-year-old school run by Quakers, is getting some new digs in Downtown’s MetroTech Center. After a traditional Quaker moment of silence at a ceremonial ground-breaking last Wednesday, Bob Bowman, headmaster of the institution’s 9th–12th grade “upper school,” said it was time to celebrate.

“My uncle By Poo used to say that there are certain times for hootin’ and hollerin’ — and this is one of them,” Bowman said at an announcement inside the new location on Lawrence Street between the Myrtle Avenue Promenade and Willoughby Street.

The religious sect founded the school on Schermerhorn Street back in 1867, with just 17 students in its first class. Today, the school has its main campus on Pearl Street and a temporary location on Willoughby Street, near Jay Street, enrolling 800 students from prekindergarten to 12th grade. The school hopes to complete its \$40 million MetroTech expansion in time for the 2015 school year. One Friends senior said she is proud of her school’s growth.

“It’s a recognition of all the great work that the teachers have been doing here,” Eve Bromberg said. “And it legitimizes the school’s academic prowess.”

The renovated building interior is set to house classrooms for 240 high schoolers on three floors, featuring sci-



Brooklyn Friends School has been in the neighborhood for nearly 150 years, and is now growing with a new campus in MetroTech Center.

ence labs, art studios, music classrooms, a dance studio, and a fitness center, among other amenities. Administrators planned the new digs, which have been in the works for nearly a decade, with a lot of input from teachers, the school’s headmaster said.

“This was truly a collaborative effort,” Larry Weiss said. “Teachers really got to contribute to what we finally see here.”

Staying in the neighborhood is important to students and faculty, the student council president said.

“We’re in the heart of Brooklyn, one of the most diverse cities in the world,” said prez and senior Airenakhue Omoragbon. “It’s a testament to our school’s values.”

Borough President Adams was also on hand for the ceremony. He said he remembers being a cop in the neighborhood and coming to Sid’s Hardware, the store that occupied the new Friends spot for nearly 30 years until it closed in 2010.

“Now it’s going to give kids the tools and supplies they need,” he said.

Cats’s cradle grows

Mogul’s Myrtle Ave. complex getting 32-story hi-rise

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

Fort Greene is climbing to new heights. Billionaire and mayoral also-ran John Catsimatidis is planning a 32-story tower as the final piece of his four-building development along Myrtle Avenue, permits show. Catsimatidis bought the properties that take up nearly all of the two blocks between Ashland Place and Flatbush Avenue Extension for \$1 million back in the early 1980s and finally got around to building on the lots in the last decade.

The tower is set to be more than twice as tall as the rest of the planned complex. One building, the Andrea, named for Catsimatidis’s daughter,



The last of four John Catsimatidis-owned towers will soon rise along Myrtle Avenue in Fort Greene.

opened in 2010 standing nine stories tall and containing 95 rental apartments, plus a Catsimatidis-owned Red Apple Supermarket on the ground floor.

The second, the Giovanni, is an ode to John Catsmitadis, Jr. and is set to open later this year, standing 15 stories with 205 apartments inside. Crews

are set to break ground on the third, yet-to-be-named building this year and it is supposed to be about 15 stories as well. The skyscraper is slated to sit closest to Flatbush and include ground-floor retail. It will have for a neighbor the Torren, a “Tron”-esque, 38-story condo building that opened in 2009. Nearby are the Oro, the Bklyn Air, and the Avalon Fort Greene, all luxury towers built in the last six years and boasting about 40 stories.

The massive new buildings were made possible by the 2004 rezoning of Downtown. Catsimatidis’s long game would not have taken quite so long to execute had it not been for the economic collapse of 2008, he said in May.

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For HOLIDAYS!

Tiny tennis club opens in Gowanus

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

Finally, a private, indoor, miniature tennis club for kids!

Court 16 opened in Gowanus on Monday, offering pint-sized tennis courts, lighter rackets, and softer balls for the tennis stars of tomorrow to get a head start on the 2029 U.S. Open. The downsized digs help kids learn the fundamentals without having to wield heavy gear or strain trying to lift the ball over regulation nets, according to a founder.

“We wanted the kids to feel like the courts are designed for them, not just that they’re playing on a court built for adults,” said Court 16 executive Anthony Evrard.

The club, where an annual membership runs \$500, is carefully served up for the discerning junior player, he said.

“Kids in New York are so much more aware, and so we really have to craft it for them to be legitimate,” Evrard said.

The pros at Court 16 spent the summer courting neighborhood parents of potential 3–11-year-old players as they built out the foam-lined walls and courts in a former warehouse at 526 Baltic St. between Nevins Street and



16 are half that size, 36 feet from end to end, although they didn’t seem so small when Evrard had this reporter chasing the ball all over the place during a brief demonstration on Tuesday. The courts can be expanded to 60 feet for the older kids as they gear up for the big time.

The baselines aren’t the only things that are scaled down. The tiny tennis facility also includes close-to-the-ground bathroom fixtures and water fountains, staggered in height to serve the full spectrum of ages.

The diminutive diversion is no racket, either. The United States Tennis Association officially sanctioned kids tennis in 2011 and small courts exist in California, Colorado, and Louisiana. But the development is still catching on in the U.S., whereas it has been an overhead smash in Europe for more than a decade, according to Evrard, who hails from Belgium. The petite courts and less-bouncy balls make it a breeze to school kids in the basics, he said.

“It’s much easier to teach the right fundamentals on a

smaller court,” he said.

Evrard knows what he’s talking about, if his tennis game is any indication. His parents lobbed him into the sport when he was three, and as a teenager he volleyed his way into junior circuits that took that took him to such far-flung locations as Florida, where he said he fell in love with the United States. He studied business at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, where he said he was the captain of his team junior and senior year. A Manhattanite, he has lived in New York since 2005, and he said he began flirting with the idea of opening a junior tennis club several years ago.

Court 16 employs eight people, including Evrard, four coaches, and three administrators, Evrard said. He declined to say how many youngsters have signed up so far.

Court 16 [526 Baltic St. between Nevins Street and Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 875-5550, www.court16.com]. Monday–Friday, 9 am–8 pm. Saturday, 8 am–8 pm. Sunday, 8 am–7 pm. \$500 annually.

Art by the masses

B’wick gallery gives the public the keys

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

A Bushwick art gallery is taking the do-it-yourself ethos to new extremes by inviting the world inside to do whatever, whenever.

Where, a gallery housed in a shipping container in a Myrtle Avenue flea market, began the monthlong free-for-all on Sept. 12 by posting instructions online detailing how to get inside.

“Where is opening its doors to anyone for anything,” the gallery’s owners wrote.

It is bold on its face, but the curators’ decision to subject their space to the whims of the hordes came down to putting off their jobs for a while, one said.

“It is a small act of deferral that has structured everything that has happened since,” Lucy Hunter said. “We said we are going to defer the responsibility of curating the space by sending out a message across the internet that you can do something in there if you want,

but we are out.”

The only barrier to entry for would-be featured artists is the pass code to the lockbox containing the key. Hunter and her art partner R. Lyon posted the instructions on Facebook and Craigslist and others have disseminated the message through other forums.

One anonymous evangelist for the project added in the suggestion that readers should bring a handful of sand or dirt each until the room is full to the ceiling. The gallery owners don’t know for certain who the source of the dirt manifesto is.

“I think I know who put those messages out there,” she said. “But I do not want to say, because I am not sure.”

The only art supplies the gallery owners left in the space are a bucket of white paint and a roller brush.

People have done all kinds of stuff in the space so far. A topless woman wrapped in Saran wrap danced around with a guy wearing a cake mask, a naked man played a bicycle wheel with a violin bow while a guy in a beekeeper mask banged away on a piano, and someone made a shrine featuring an image of Jesus and a banana.

The shenanigans were being broadcast on a webcam, but the feed is down now that the gallery has exceeded its monthly allotted bandwidth, according to its website.

The germ of the open-door policy idea came when Hunter and Lyon asked their friend Tyler Coburn to write a hypothetical press release announcing a show at their gallery. They promised him they would actually arrange whatever he came up with. Coburn wrote that the gallery was working on its “innerpassivity” and would allow anyone to do whatever they wanted in the space. Hunter and Lyon went with it.

Even the most amateur of artists say they have had a great time marking up the place.

“I did something like this on in an abandoned military



Tom Koehler paints the walls at Where, a shipping container art gallery that is currently open to anyone who wants to make — and show — anything.

building once, but never in an official space,” said Peter Gault, who went with a group of his friends and covered the gallery walls with graffiti. “It felt like such a cool community. We invited random people to come in and make stuff with us.”

While the hoi polloi is busy making art in Where, Hunter and Lyon have been busy running on an online auction to keep the lights on. The fundraiser is a Herculean undertaking given how unorganized they are, Hunter said.

“We are really bad gallerists who never sell anything and really bad non-profits who never apply for grants,” she said. “We have a really tiny budget — \$15,000 — but we need to raise that money somehow.”

Free-for-all at Where gallery (1397 Myrtle Ave., Unit 4, lockbox code: 0824, between Himrod and Harman streets in Bushwick, www.1397myrtleavenueunit4brooklynny11237.com). Through Oct. 12. Free.





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Subway series!

All the Brooklyn stops in BAM's Retro Metro film fest

By Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

It is a throwback to the bad old days. The Brooklyn Academy of Music is screening 13 classic films that captured New York City's subway system at the height of its grit, in a series dubbed Retro Metro. The curator said the series, which runs Sept. 26–Oct. 25, was an old idea that almost never left the station. “It was one of those things that was always on the back burner,” said BAMcinematek programmer Nellie Killian. “We had this perverse idea that we would do it in August when everyone hates the subway the most. But we waited until September when things cooled down.” But of course, the most important films in the series are the ones that feature Brooklyn lines and stops. So we have compiled a guide to the four movies that highlight Kings County transit — and the exact locations they highlight — so you don't waste your money on flicks that only feature other, lesser boroughs.

1 “The Warriors”

This 1979 cult classic gives the borough's people-movers the most play — even if many Brooklyn locations actually stand in for elsewhere in the city. Shots of trains pulling into Coney Island's Stillwell Avenue station bookend the film. Amid the action, the Broadway Junction, New Utrecht Avenue, and Hoyt–Schermerhorn stops all make appearances mas-

querading as stations in the Bronx and Manhattan. The film features the system so heavily that it is almost a supporting character, Killian said. “It's everywhere — it's this artery of the city that's allowing people to travel through different neighborhoods,” she said. Screening Sept. 26 at 3 pm, 5 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm.

2 “Saturday Night Fever”

The R train and the Fourth Avenue line

have cameos in 1977's “Saturday Night Fever” (pictured top left), when prancing protagonist Tony Manero goes to the city to visit his dance partner. “That movie is so much about traversing the city,” Killian said. “His rides back and forth between Brooklyn and Manhattan are at the heart of the story.” Screening Oct. 4 at 4:30 pm, 7 pm, 9:30 pm.

3 “The French Connection”

This 1971 thriller flits through the five

FILM

Retro Metro at BAM Rose Cinemas [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org] Sept. 26–Oct. 25 at various times. \$14 per screening.

boroughs at break-neck speed, but the famous chase scene was shot below the West End elevated tracks in Gravesend and Bensonhurst. In the end, Det. John Doyle gets his man on the stairs leading up to the 62nd Street station on the border of Bensonhurst and Borough Park (pictured top right). More than just a killer action sequence, the scene shows off classic sections of Brooklyn, Killian said. “That chase scene is so iconic because it's just perfectly constructed and so fun to watch, but also so many great exterior shots of the neighborhood,” she said. Screening Oct. 5 at 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 7 pm, 9:30 pm.

4 “Just Another Girl on the I.R.T.”

For a movie with a title that name-drops the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, 1992 flick “Just Another Girl on the I.R.T.” is pretty slim on actual subway shots. But the opening scene takes place at the Park Place Station along the Franklin Avenue Shuttle, and another shot goes retro with a bright red 2 train pulling into the Flatbush Avenue Brooklyn College station. Screening Sept. 30 at 8 pm.

PARTY

Steaming up



Downtown is getting steamy! On Oct. 2, the New York Transit Museum is throwing a steampunk-themed party — celebrating the quirky subculture that pairs science fiction with Industrial Revolution-era technologies. And one of the night's organizers said the museum already has the decoration situation sorted. “People who are into steampunk also tend to be into a Victorian aesthetic and steam power, so we are trying to link them together,” said Elyse Newman, the museum's education manager. “A lot of steampunkers are into Victorian technology and gears and things that move.” The event, dubbed Power Play: Steampunk and the Transit System, will include steampunk craft tables; vintage curiosities from the Museum of Interesting Things (pictured above); Victorian era-inspired cocktails; and the sounds of “gypsy punk” band Amour Obscur. Revelers are, naturally, encouraged to come in steampunk attire. The party is a collaboration between the museum and Atlas Obscura, a website dedicated to highlighting unusual travel destinations. The site's creators also host events and tours that focus on unusual experiences in strange and hidden locations. “We want to encourage people to explore the city in new and interesting ways,” said Atlas Obscura co-founder Dylan Thurs. “So this is a cool way to bring our audience there.” Atlas Obscura had also planned to bring in an aging organ grinder and his monkey, but city health codes do not allow monkeys in museums, said Thurs. Power Play: Steampunk and the Transit System at the New York Transit Museum [Boerum Place at Schermerhorn Street in Downtown, (718) 694-1600, web.mta.info/mta/museum], Oct. 2 at 7 pm. \$35. — Danielle Furfaro

MUSIC

Cover country



Break out the rhinestones and herbal refreshment. A gaggle of Brooklyn musicians are joining forces to stage a musical tribute to country music icons Patsy Cline and Willie Nelson at Cameo Gallery on Sept. 29. “A lot of their music is timeless and they are inspirations to generations of musicians,” said show organizer Dani Mari (pictured above). “It is rewarding to see what all the different musicians' perspectives are on the artists.” More than 20 musicians will perform at the show. Each will play a cover of either a Patsy Cline or Willie Nelson song and then they will play one original. This is the first covers show that Mari has organized since she moved to Williamsburg a year ago. In her previous home of Philadelphia, she organized similar shows for Johnny Cash and Hank Williams, and also created an event called Cover Me Philly, where local musicians covered each others' songs. Mari allowed all of the participants to select which song they wanted to sing on a first-come, first-serve basis. For her part, she plans to perform Cline's “Back in Baby's Arms.” Park Slope folk singer-songwriter Irene Molloy said she wanted to perform at the show because she likes to reinvent other people's songs. She plans to sing Nelson's “Always on My Mind.” “I wanted to do something that I could play with in terms of emotion and timing,” said Molloy. “I like to take something really simple and emotional and do it in my own style.” Crazy: A Tribute to Patsy Cline and Willie Nelson at Cameo Gallery [93 N. Sixth St. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 302-1180, www.cameoony.com], Sept. 29 at 7:30 pm. \$5. — Danielle Furfaro



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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY

Sept. 26



Jumbo Dumbo

Dumbo — it is not just for tourists and techies when the waterfront neighborhood hosts its annual Dumbo Arts Festival. Highlights of this year's fest include a food cart transformed into a mobile disco, a giant word-search projected onto the Manhattan Bridge, and a roaming band of artists wearing giant heads made to look like Jerry Saltz and Roberta Smith.

6–9 pm at various location in Dumbo (www.dumboartsfestival.com). Free. Festival runs through Sept. 28.

SATURDAY

Sept. 27

Spin-off

Get on up — again! Beloved weekly competitive dance party Soul Clap and Dance Off has been on hiatus all summer, but DJ Jonathan Toubin makes his triumphant return to Brooklyn Bowl tonight. The New York Dolls' David Johansen will be the guest selector, while Steve Myers of the Afghan Whigs will be on hosting duties.

Midnight at Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. at N. 12th Street in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369, www.brooklynbowl.com]. \$8.



SUNDAY

Sept. 28



Antics road show

Look, we know you are almost street festival-ed out by this time of the year — we're sick of corn on the cob, too — but you can't miss the Atlantic Antic, the biggest street festival of all. With a full mile of festivities, there is sure to be something you haven't seen, heard, bought, or eaten at another fest yet.

Noon–6 pm along Atlantic Avenue (Between Hicks Street and Fourth Avenue in Downtown, www.atlanticcave.org). Free.

TUESDAY

Sept. 30

Squid ink

New York chefs have done just every other variation on a pairing dinner, so why not this? Greenlight Bookstore is teaming up with Peck's Specialty Foods to pair a meal with a reading. Food writer Matthew Gavin Frank will discuss his new book "Preparing the Ghost" — about a giant squid — over a calamari dinner.

7 pm at Peck's Specialty Foods [455A Myrtle Ave. between Washington and Waverly avenues in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, www.greenlight-bookstore.com]. \$50.



WEDNESDAY

Oct. 1



Fright nights

Don't go into the woods! Almost every day of October, Videology will be screening horror movie marathons with a different theme each day. The series kicks off today with 1940s horror films, while other highlights include Asian horror (Oct. 16), and evil animals and evil children (Oct. 23).

4 pm at Videology [308 Bedford Ave. between South First and South Second streets in Williamsburg, (718) 782-3468, www.videology.info]. Free.

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PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, MOTHER, RATHBORNE, MON KHMER, PRELOW, DJ BRUCE HACKFORD: Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn Night Bazaar (165 Banker St. at Norman Avenue in Greenpoint), www.bkbazaar.com.

MUSIC, PETER EVANS QUINTET: \$15 (\$10 advance). 8 pm. Jack (505 Waverly Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill), www.jacknyc.org.

MUSIC, NOISE NEW YORK, MIDNIGHT SNACK, NOELL TANNEN, MADELINE MONDRALA: \$8. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, SONNYMOON: Free. 10 pm. BAM Cafe (30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene), www.bam.org/programs/bamcafe-live.

MUSIC, MONIKA KRUSE, LAUREN LANE, SOPHIA VALENCE: \$20–\$30. 10 pm. Output [74 Wythe Ave. at N. 12th Street in Williamsburg, (917) 333-1000], www.outputclub.com.

THEATER, "THE DEFINITIVE LOSER'S GUIDE TO WINNING": One-man show written and performed by Dui Jarrod. \$20 (\$15 with student ID). 7 pm. Kumble Theater at Long Island University [DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 488-1624], www.brooklyn.liu.edu/KumbleTheater.

OTHER

MUSIC, PARTY LIKE IT'S 1985: 1980s themed dance party. Free. 9 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouse.nyc.

THE '90S POP SING-A-LONG: Sing along to music videos, plus a costume contest, dance-off, and themed drinks. 9:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallnyc.com.

THIS PARTY IS KILLING YOU — A NIGHT OF ALL ROBYN EVERYTHING: Dance party celebrating Robyn. \$5. 11:30 pm. Glasslands (289 Kent Ave. at S. Second Street in Williamsburg), www.glasslands.com.



Stick it: The New York Islanders face off against the New Jersey Devils at Barclays Center Sept. 26.

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

FRI, SEPT. 26

SPORTS, NEW YORK ISLANDERS VS. NEW JERSEY DEVILS: \$15–\$279. 7:30 pm.

MON, OCT. 6

SPORTS, WWE MONDAY NIGHT RAW: John Cena and Dean Ambrose v. Randy Orton and Seth Rollins. \$25–\$105. 7:30 pm.

TUE, OCT. 7

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. MACCABI TEL AVIV: Preseason game. \$20–\$250. 7:30 pm.

THURS, OCT. 9

MUSIC, JUDAS PRIEST: With guests Steel Panther. \$47.50–\$99. 8 pm.

THURS, OCT. 16

MUSIC, DEF JAM RECORDINGS 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT: Featuring Rick Ross, 2 Chainz, DMX, Fabolous, Foxy Brown, Method Man, and more. \$60–\$190. 8 pm.

SUN, OCT. 19

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. BOSTON CELTICS: Preseason game. \$22–\$300. 3 pm.

FRI, OCT. 31

MUSIC, BOO!: Halloween dance party featuring Knife Party, DJ Snake, Tommy Trash, Tchami, and Milo and Otis, and Craze. \$29.50–\$85. 7 pm.

620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights (917) 618-6100, www.barclayscenter.com.

SAT, SEPT. 27

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, KEIJI HAINO, XNOBBQX, X WAVE: \$20. 7 pm. Issue Project Room [22 Boerum Pl. at Livingston Street in Downtown, (718) 330-0313], www.issueprojectroom.org.

MUSIC, WANNA, CHRIS OLIVER, SOUR JENNY, SET THE CHARGE: \$8. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, THE FUTURE SCARES ME, PAJAMA PEOPLE, OMOO: \$8–\$10. 8 pm. Cameo Gallery [93 N. Sixth St. between Wythe Avenue and

MON, OCT. 20

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. PHILADELPHIA 76ERS: Preseason game. \$20–\$250. 7:30 pm.

SAT, OCT. 25

MUSIC, A NIGHT OF WORSHIP TO SAVE OUR YOUTH GOSPEL EXPLOSION: Featuring gospel artists Bishop Hezekiah Walker, Yolanda Adams, and Erica Campbell. \$49.50–\$99.50. 7 pm.

MON, OCT. 27

MUSIC, DEMI LOVATO: With guests Christina Perri and MKTO. \$35–\$69.50. 7 pm.

THURS, OCT. 30

MUSIC, POWERHOUSE 2014: Featuring J. Cole, Ne-Yo, Young Jeezy, Kid Ink, T.I., Childish Gambino, French Montana, Migos, Tinashe and Bobby Shmurda. \$19.99–\$199. 7 pm.

FRI, OCT. 31

MUSIC, BOO!: Halloween dance party featuring Knife Party, DJ Snake, Tommy Trash, Tchami, and Milo and Otis, and Craze. \$29.50–\$85. 7 pm.

OTHER

CHILE PEPPER FESTIVAL: Fiery food from more than 45 vendors, plus chocolate, and live music. \$20 (\$15 students and seniors, kids under 12 free). 11 am–6 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220], www.bbg.org.

ART, "IMAGINE THIS": Featuring work by more than 50 artists. Free. 2–6 pm. Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition [499 Van Brunt St., near Reed Street in Red Hook, (718) 596-2506], www.bwac.org.

ART, "LIFE OF THE PARTY": Exhibition organized by Peter Schenck featuring work by Tess Bilhartz, Austin Eddy, Sarah Lubin, Jeremy Roby, Peter Schenck, and Simon Slater. Free. Noon–5 pm. Fowler Project Space [67 West Street, #216, off West St. in Greenpoint], www.fowlerprojectspace.org.

FILM, "VAMPYR": Silent horror classic set to a live performance by band Black Lodge. \$15. Noon. Nitehawk Cinema [136 Metropolitan Ave. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-3980], www.nitehawkcinema.com.

READING, NICK HARKAWAY: Video chat with the UK author about his new novel "Tigerman." Free. Noon–6 pm. Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096], www.wordbrooklyn.com.

READING, RIK GARRETT: Celebrating the release of "Earth Magic." Free. 8 pm. Catland [987 Flushing Ave. between Bogart Street and Evergreen Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 418-9393], www.catland-books.com.

SPORTS, BROOKLYN STICKBALL OLD TIMERS: 46th annual game and reunion. Free. 1 pm. (80th St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Bay Ridge).

BROOKLYN POUR CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL: Featuring more than 100 craft beers from around New York and beyond. \$55–\$85. 2–6 pm. Sky-light One Hanson [1 Hanson Pl. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 230-0400], www.villagevoice.com.

See 9 DAYS on page 10



The Brooklyn Paper

Your Neighborhood — Your News®

Published weekly at
1 Metrotech Center North, Suite 1001, Brooklyn NY 11201 (718) 260-2500

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The Brooklyn Paper incorporates the following newspapers:

Brooklyn Heights Paper, Downtown News, Park Slope Paper, Sunset Park Paper, Windsor Terrace Paper, Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill Paper, Fort Greene–Clinton Hill Paper, Bay Ridge Paper, Bensonhurst Paper, Bushwick Paper, Greenpoint Paper, Williamsburg Paper

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With a cherry on top: Kilo Bravo owner Kate Buenaflor has created a cocktail for every state in America.

America the booze-iful

Williamsburg bar creates a cocktail for every state

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

A drive to all 50 states would take a long time — especially when you factor in Hawaii. But a new Williamsburg bar is offering an alcohol-soaked road trip that will allow patrons to circumnavigate the states from the comfort of their bar stools. Kilo Bravo, which opened this month on N. 10th Street, has created a cocktail for each state and hopes that its customers want to come along for the ride. “The goal was to come up with creative ways to identify the bar brand without being cheesy,” said owner Kate Buenaflor. “To give a bar an identity without being too gimmicky is a challenge.” Some of the drinks are actually official state cocktails,

such as the Cape Codder or mint julep, but Buenaflor did not want to stick to the same formula for each. “That would have been boring,” she said. “Some of the ingredients in the drinks are from the state or some of them are named after sports teams. We did something different for each one.” For example, since Ohio is known for its blue collar workers, the Kilo Bravo cocktail is called the BlueCollar Sidecar. It features brandy, Cointreau, lemon, blue curacao, and sugar. The New Jersey cocktail, called the Turnpike, is an overloaded Long Island Ice Tea. For New York, Buenaflor eschewed the Manhattan in favor of the Bronx cocktail, which features gin, sweet vermouth, dry vermouth, and orange juice. Of course, it would be dangerous to try to tackle all 50



Dakota drinking: Left, the President (South Dakota) and the Howlin' Wolf (North Dakota).

states too quickly. As an incentive to take it easy, Kilo Bravo is giving patrons a full year to try all 50 drinks. If a customer finishes all of the drinks in one calendar year, they get a free three-hour open bar for their friends and special drink discounts. But the challenge is tougher than it sounds — Buenaflor acknowledges that some of the state drinks are not all that appetizing. “It is just like a road trip,” she said. “Some states are easy, and in some you get a flat tire.”

Region-themed Brooklyn bars

Once you drink all of the state cocktails at Kilo Bravo, you might want to spend a bit more time in some locations. Luckily, Brooklyn has a plenty of region-themed bars to sweep you away to exotic locales around the country.

Lake Street: This Minnesota-themed bar focuses on non-pretentiousness, plaid, and indie rock — and it is owned by actual indie rockers, to boot. [706 Manhattan Ave. between Norman and Messerole avenues in Greenpoint, (718) 609-0005, www.lakestreetbar.com].

Pacific Standard: You are always three hours early at this Northern California-influenced Park Slope bar. Claiming to be Brooklyn's official University of California alumni bar, Pacific Standard's TVs are tuned to Golden Bears games while its taps are filled with West Coast craft brews. [82 Fourth Ave. between St. Marks Place and Bergen Street in Park Slope, (718) 858-1951, www.pacificstandardbrooklyn.com].

Windy City Ale House: If you think Blackhawks and Cubs games aren't the same without relish-covered dogs and Goose Island, this Chicago-themed watering hole is the place to be. [7915 Third Avenue between

80th and 79th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 630-5700].

Montana's Trail House: Don't let the title fool you (the owner's name is Montana) — this Bushwick bar actually has an Appalachian motif. The interior was constructed out of a barn shipped from Kentucky and the food includes a tongue and cheek Reuben, and rabbit terrine. [445 Troutman St. at Saint Nicholas Avenue in Bushwick, (917) 966-1666, www.montanastrailhouse.com].

Clemente's Maryland Crabhouse: This Sheepshead Bay eatery is not technically a bar — and for some reason it specializes in tiki drinks — but the crab chowder is pure Old Line State. [3939 Emmons Ave. off Shore Parkway in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 646-7373, www.clementescrabhouse.com].

Hill Country Barbecue: The bar at this Downtown Texas barbecue emporium is often busier than the restaurant itself, and offers its own Lone Star-style menu — in-



Photo by Stefano Giovannini



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Cheers: From top, grab a California-style cocktail at Pacific Standard in Park Slope. And drink Texas-style at Downtown's Hill Country Barbecue.

cluding Frito pie (that's a bag of Fritos covered in chili) and queso and chips, in addition to the standard smoked stuff.

[345 Adams St. between Fulton and Willoughby streets in Downtown, (718) 885-4608, www.hillcountrybk.com].

BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roudy

Kilo Bravo is a new Williamsburg spot with a simple agenda:

It's a neighborhood bar with food and a hint of rock 'n roll.

The menu has some simple but satisfying options:

Slow-cooked beef sandwiches (\$9-11)

Crack snack mix (\$1)

And a dozen draft beers (\$6-7).

It also has a Road Trip menu: one drink for every US state. If you drink all 50 within a year, Kilo Bravo will throw you a party! But some states are more of a challenge than others.

Hmm. Nice! Gah! Or try one of the tasty moonshine drinks (\$10)!

New York: Bronx Cocktail

Tennessee: Lynchburg Lemonade

New Jersey: The Turnpike

Vodka, gin, rum, tequila, whiskey, triple sec, and a bunch of juices. Ack!

Kilo Bravo [180 N. 10th St. between Bedford and Driggs avenues in Williamsburg, (347) 987-4379, www.kilobravobar.com]. Open daily, noon-4 am.



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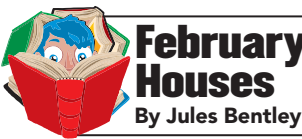


French disconnection

Novel paints picture of artistic life in '30s Paris

Paris is yearning. British poet Mina Loy's posthumously published novel "Insel"—recently republished in a new, expanded edition from Dumbo's Melville House—takes place in Paris between the world wars, and uses this often-idealized artistic setting to chart some pitfalls of artistic idealism.

The book's title character appears at first to be a perfect, romantic figure of the unconventional artist—economically marginal, otherworldly, charismatic, and creating great works under a sort of mystical compulsion. Insel is a surrealist painter who is perpetually on the brink of starvation. The narrator, herself a frustrated



artist, is fascinated by him. Regardless of whether the reader finds Insel so charming, the portrait is painted lovingly. He has sacrificed or abandoned everything, including his health, for his creative work. Bathed in the light of the narrator's imaginative obsession, Insel seems sometimes a holy hermit, sometimes a sweet but hapless struggling artist, and sometimes a drug-addicted scammer. The narrator works at an art gal-

lery, supporting herself comfortably by selling the art of others, and soon enough she's supporting Insel as well. She knows the role she is playing—"This man is fearfully banal," she admits, speaking sarcastically of "that enjailed jewel, his artistic spirit."

Loy, who died in 1966, has a style that is poetic and idiosyncratic. The book is written in English, but feels at times like a slightly awkward translation from something else. Even commonplace things that Insel does inspire in the narrator extraordinary, visionary flights of fancy, sustained surrealist fugues that showcase Loy's lyrical chops.

The characters' artistic love affair is delectably suffused in La Vie

Boheme. It unfolds along the banks of the Seine, at smoky basement dives, in drafty garret painting studios, and most of all outside Montmartre's artist-infested all-night cafes. "Man Ray came up and sat with us and went away," writes Loy, who is said to have based the novel on her own relationship with German surrealist painter Richard Oelze, who she met in Paris.

But the relationship of patroness and patronized is not placid. There is an aggressive edge to the narrator's treatment of Insel. He is an object of interest to her—maybe more than human, maybe less, but not an equal. He begins to accuse her of stifling him. Their mutual resentment coalesces into veiled

and then unveiled sadism. At one point, the narrator vividly imagines herself transformed into a huge red beefsteak, presumably for her pet painter to devour. Who is using whom, and to what ends?

The reader is also taught an ugly but valuable lesson—just because someone is artistic, it doesn't mean they have good politics. Our narrator is racist, which surfaces distractingly on a couple of occasions.

When the narrator's frustrations with Insel begin to overwhelm her idealization of him—and when his petulance gives way to passive-aggressive nastiness—the book becomes more compelling, and more interest attaches to the question of whose tears it will all end in. Until then, Loy's fresh, unusual turns of phrase and eruptions into virtuosic fantasy keep this painterly piece of Parisian steak sizzling.

"February Houses," named after the 20th-century Brooklyn arts commune, spotlights recent or noteworthy literature from Brooklyn publishers. To send books for review, contact xjulesbentleyx@gmail.com.

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8
brooklynpour.com.

SUN, SEPT. 28

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, LINDSEY WILSON AND THE RECKONING, YATSUMI MURAKAMI, CHUEEMEE: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, ASHES TO RAIN, NOTHING MAJOR, WINSTONS, AND FEMALE: \$10. 8:30 pm. Glasslands (289 Kent Ave. at S. Second Street in Williamsburg), www.glasslands.com.

OTHER

THIRD AVENUE FESTIVAL: Rides, games, food, merchandise, outdoor cafes, and live entertainment from 12 stages. **Free.** Noon–6 pm. Third Avenue between 69th and 94th Streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 745-3511, www.thirdavenuebayridge.com.

COMEDY, "DEAD PAN ALLEY": Will Shaw's one-man show. \$13. 1 pm. Waterfront Museum Barge [290 Conover St. near Reed Street in Red Hook, (718) 624-4719], www.waterfrontmuseum.org.

MON, SEPT. 29

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, THE MIKI DORAS, THE MONTAUK PROJECT: \$10. 8:30. Glasslands (289 Kent Ave. at S. Second Street in Williamsburg), www.glasslands.com.

OTHER

FILM, "FILMAGE—THE STORY OF DESCENDENTS/ALL": Includes

post-screening Q&A with co-director Matt Riggle. \$16. 9:30 pm. Nitehawk Cinema [136 Metropolitan Ave. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-3980], www.nitehawkcinema.com.

FILM, "PETER BROOK—THE TIGHTROPE": Documentary about tightrope walker Peter Brook. Followed by a discussion with his son. \$10. 7 pm. Theatre for a New Audience, Polonsky Shakespeare Center [262 Ashland Pl. between Fulton Street and Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (212) 229-2819], www.tfana.org.

TUES, SEPT. 30

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, QUEEN OF WANDS, SISTER HELEN, SAIKA AND THEE INCREDIBLES: \$8. 8 pm. Cameo Gallery [93 N. Sixth St. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-1180], www.cameony.net.

MUSIC, THE TELECOMUNISTS, SPHEREA, MAGDALENA, IN-GROOVE: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, "ALL NIGHT LONG": Tribute to Sir Richard Attenborough with a screening of the 1962 movie jazz film. **Free.** 8 pm. Black Bear Bar [70 N. 6th St. between Kent and Wythe Avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 683-4153].

MUSIC, STEREO INTERCOURSE, DINNER AND A SUIT, IGOR DISCO: \$8-\$10. 7:30 pm. Rock Shop [249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740], www.therockshopny.com.



Art attack: This painting of Williamsburg is just one of more than 50 works in the Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition's fall show "Imagine This," opening Sept. 27.

OTHER

READING, ANNE HELEN-PEETERSEN: Launch of "Scandals of Classic Hollywood." **Free.** 7–9 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

WED, OCT. 1

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, MCBRIDE, BARELYON, SURF ROCK IS DEAD: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, COMPOSERS' COLLECTIVE PREMIERE: **Free.** 7 pm. Brooklyn College, Studio 312 [2900 Bedford Ave. at Campus Road in Flatbush, (718) 951-5792], www.bcmusic.org.

OTHER

READING, JOY PIERSON, ANGEL RAMOS, AND JORGE PINEDA: Book launch of "Vegan Holiday Cooking from Candle Cafe." 7–9 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

TALK, BORN DIFFERENT—CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS, DISABILITIES,

A CASE STUDY OF SIDE SHOW PERFORMERS: Jeffrey Birnbaum gives lecture relating his experiences as the "in house" physician at Coney Island USA's Side-shows By The Seashore. \$8. 8 pm. Morbid Anatomy Museum [424 Third Ave. at Seventh Street in Gowanus, (347) 799-1017], www.morbidanatomymuseum.org.

THURS, OCT. 2

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, GREASY HEARTS, THE FUCKTONS, HEAVY BIRDS, LUMPS, THE RIZZOS: \$8-\$10. 7:30 pm.

Rock Shop [249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740], www.therockshopny.com.

MUSIC, DUMB FRIENDS, THE PHRYG, THE MET: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

OTHER

TALK, EXPLORING BROOKLYN'S SHIFTING DEMOGRAPHICS: Demographers Joseph Salvo and Peter Lobo from the New York City Department of City Planning explore past and future demographic shifts in Brooklyn. \$10 (\$5

for BHS members). 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklynhistory.org.

TALK, THE EVERLASTING FUNERAL OF EDGAR

ALLAN POE: Illustrated lecture by A. N. Devers. \$8. 8 pm. Morbid Anatomy Museum [424 Third Ave. at Seventh Street in Gowanus, (347) 799-1017], www.morbidanatomymuseum.org.

FRI, OCT. 3

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, THE BOTTS, AUGUSTINES: \$21. 8 pm. Rough Trade NYC [64 N. Ninth St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 388-4111], www.roughtradeNYC.com.

MUSIC, ASHLEY DAVIS: **Free.** 9 pm. BAM Cafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene], www.bam.org/programs/bamcafe-live.

MUSIC, DAFT CLUB DAFT PUNK TRIBUTE PARTY: Featuring DJ Orion & DJ Holla. **Free.** 10 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouseNY.com.

OTHER

ART, "CROSSING BROOKLYN—ART FROM BUSHWICK, BED-STUY, AND BEYOND": Works by 35 Brooklyn artists and collectives. \$12 (suggested). 11 am–6 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org.

DANCE, "LOVE & MONEY—EGYPT TO NEW YORK": Liberation Dance Theater performs a physical essay charting the evolution of love. \$14 (\$10 advance). 7:30 pm. BRIC Arts Media

House [647 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 683-5621], www.bricartsmedia.org.

SAT, OCT. 4

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, CAKE AND KISSES: More than 50 DJs and musical artists perform, including Nitty Scott MC, Dice Raw, Akrobatik, Akir, Icon the Mic King, and Napoleon Da Legend. \$10. 1 pm. The Paper Box [17 Meadow St. between Bogart and Waterbury streets in Williamsburg, (718) 383-3815], paperboxnyc.com.

ART, TARGET FIRST SATURDAY: This edition of the Brooklyn Museum's monthly open house will highlight Latino music, dance, and discussions on issues facing the community. **Free.** 5–11 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org.

MUSIC, ROBBERS, GENERATOR OHM, BERNARDO, AIRCRAFTING: \$8-\$10. 7:30 pm. Rock Shop [249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740], www.therockshopny.com.

MUSIC, FRED HO MEMORIAL: **Free.** 9 pm. BAM Cafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene], www.bam.org/programs/bamcafe-live.

OTHER

OKTOBERFEST: Includes German food, music, and games. \$45. Noon–6 pm. Aviator Sports and Events Center [3159 Flatbush Ave. in Floyd Bennett Field in Marine Park, (718) 758-7500].



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gaycitynews.nyc/bestofgaycity

Boxing match

Push to crack down on clothing bins

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

Ban the bin! Neighborhoods above Prospect Park have been hit by the scourge of illegal, sidewalk-hogging clothing donation bins that have long plagued commercial corridors in Bay Ridge and elsewhere, according to business groups that are backing proposed Council legislation to tighten restrictions on the boxes.

Current rules give bin owners 30 days to remove the containers, which often advertise clothing recycling and occasionally tout charitable contributions but are generally for-profit. That grace period is way too long to let the bins sit in a public walkway, one local administrator said.

“I own a big metal box too. It says ‘Ford,’ front and back,” said Robert Perris, district manager of Downtown’s Community Board 2. “If I parked it on the sidewalk, it would be gone within days, if not hours.”

The metal bins have been proliferating citywide during the past few years, according to trash commissioner Kathryn Garcia, highlighting the problem at a Sept. 19 Council hearing. The sanitation department logged 2,093 reports of illegal bins in the 2014 fiscal year, which ended in June, up from just 97 in the 2012 fiscal year, Garcia said.

“The dramatic increase in numbers highlights the fact



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Dan Scorseis is a business booster trying to figure out how to battle back the influx of illegal clothing bins like this one onto Clinton Hill sidewalks.

that the current law is no longer effective in deterring bin owners,” Garcia said at the hearing.

Current rules do not impose a fine for illegally placed bins, and area business alliances say that after the city issues warnings, clothing recyclers simply move their bins.

“It’s like a game of Whac-a-Mole,” said Phillip Kellog, director of the Fort Greene and Clinton Hill merchant group the Fulton Area Business Alliance.

A coalition of merchant groups including Kellog’s, as

well as ones from Boerum Hill, Cobble Hill, and Park Slope, is lining up behind the law that would require the city to remove bins on public property immediately, fine bin owners, and bill bin owners for the removal costs.

Representatives from Myrtle Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Fifth Avenue pro-business groups all testified at the Council hearing last week in support of such a clampdown.

“They are unsightly, block access, and attract trash and graffiti,” said Meredith Phil-

lips Almeida, from the Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn Partnership, which also operates in Fort Greene and Clinton Hill.

The bins are so out of control that one turned up in a crosswalk in Almeida’s area, she said.

The head of the Park Slope Fifth Avenue Business Improvement District complained that a bin in his area was bolted to the sidewalk.

“Let’s face it: the owners of these bins are playing games with the city’s law,” said Mark Caserta, director of the Fifth Avenue group, at the Council hearing.

Josef Szende, the Atlantic Avenue merchant rep, said Council members should tighten restrictions as soon as possible.

“I think this issue is a slam-dunk,” Szende said. “And I hope the Council dunks it.”

The anti-bin bill was penned by Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito (D–Bronx) and has the backing of 22 Council members, including Jumaane Williams (D–East Flatbush), Carlos Menchaca (D–Sunset Park), Antonio Reynoso (D–Bushwick), and Mathieu Eugene (D–Flatbush).

Notably absent from the list of pols supporting the proposal are councilmen Brad Lander (D–Park Slope) and Steve Levin (D–Boerum Hill) and Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo (D–Fort Greene), whose districts contain the agitated Brooklyn business boosters.

Bins placed on private property with the owner’s permission are not illegal and are not in the group’s sights.

Stabbing on Montague St.

Attack shatters afternoon calm in Brooklyn Heights

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

Cops arrested a man who they say stabbed another man in the neck, severing his jugular vein in the early afternoon on busy Montague Street in Brooklyn Heights on Sept. 22.

The 36-year-old victim, a construction manager, and the 20-year-old suspect, a disgruntled Ukrainian construction worker, got into an argument over \$360 in unpaid wages at 1 pm on the street between Cadman Plaza West and Clinton Street, according to cops and

a report by the New York Post. The worker had text-messed the boss to demand his five days’ pay, but the manager responded, “F--- you,” the Post reported.

When the worker confronted the manager in his white pickup truck on Monday, the guy told him he would get his money in a week, which sent the accused into a rage, per prosecutors and the Post. The suspect then pulled the knife out of his back pocket and jammed it into the victim three times, cutting his jugular and his carotid artery and puncturing his arm and shoulder,

according to cops and prosecutors. The suspect then slid the bloody blade into its sheath, the district attorney’s office said.

Officers arrested the suspect as emergency personnel carted off the victim to Lutheran Medical Center, law enforcement officials said.

A lawyer for the accused said he acted in self defense, the Post wrote.

Prosecutors hit the man in custody with an attempted murder rap and a judge held him on \$250,000 bail, police stated.

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Law professor’s circuit appeal

A tech-centric legal clinic fights revenge porn, patent trolls

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

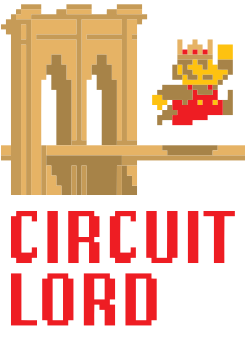
This law professor has created a one-stop online shop for putting a stop to revenge porn.

A legal hack-athon hosted by Brooklyn Law School professor Jonathan Askin last year as part of his Incubator Project resulted in a website that generates cease-and-desist letters for people to send to companies hosting explicit photos of them without their permission. Law students and web developers made the “Take My Photo Down” site because they had the know-how to offer a simple remedy to the cruel practice.

“They wanted to offer a free service to get those photos taken down,” Askin said.

The fact that many of the nude photos and videos floating around on the internet were taken by the people who appear in them means that they are easier to get removed, because the victim is the copyright holder, the website explains.

The privacy-themed hack-athon that gave rise to the letter generator was just one of many initiatives that have come out of Askin’s project, the day-to-day operation of which is focused on giving new tech companies free legal advice and providing hands-on experience for law students. Askin booted up the clinic in 2008 and, as the years go by, its clients are increasingly coming



Eye on technology and innovation in Brooklyn

from this side of the East River, he said.

“When we first started we were seeing a lot of companies based in Silicon Alley,” Askin said. “But it’s all migrating. We’re finding ourselves more and more focused on Brooklyn tech startups.”

The clinic, which Askin says has helped more than 700 clients, now has outposts in Dumbo and in Downtown’s MetroTech Center.

“We really wanted to embed ourselves in the Brooklyn tech community,” he said.

Askin and his students help budding companies fight patent trolls, draw up terms of services agreements, and deal with getting sued. Their focus is startups that do not yet have the money to cover lawyers. One such client is Push for Pizza, the ultra-simple pizza-ordering app recently featured in this column.

Askin’s group helped the



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Brooklyn Law Professor Jonathan Askin founded a clinic to help young tech companies navigate legal issues while also showing law students the ropes.

Park Slope teens who built the app to craft the privacy policy that applies to the relationship between the company and the app’s users. Cyrus Summerlin, one of the pizza pushers, said his young company would be in trouble without the clinic.

“It’s an invaluable resource,” he said. “It’s really good for startups like us. And it’s also really good for the law students.”

The clinic also works on broader legal issues that are emerging as technology changes. This includes helping companies that are trying to create a mechanism for crowd-sourcing investment in start-

ups. Such a system would work like Kickstarter, only backers would get some kind of stake in the company rather than just a nominal gift.

Patent trolls, who file patents for products they never intend to make, then sue new companies for infringement, also keep the tech-minded legal scholars busy, Askin said.

“If not for free legal services, these small startups would cave to the trolls immediately,” he said.

The spirit of collaboration driving the legal hack-athons and pro bono work comes out of hacker culture, which lawyers could learn a lot from,

Alcoholic anonymous

Starbucks rebuffed for stealth tactic in W’burg bid

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

They’re keeping neighbors in the dark roost.

Williamsburg’s community board has rebuffed coffee giant Starbucks’s application to serve beer and wine at its planned N. Seventh Street location because it left the name “Starbucks” off the paperwork, according to board member Rob Solano. The form, submitted to the board and posted on the building between Bedford Avenue and Berry Street,

listed only “Coffee House Holdings LLC,” prompting the board’s liquor committee to table a vote on the bid and demand the java giant rewrite the application and knock on every door on the block to let neighbors know of its plans, Solano said. He added that the arrival of a chain vendor serving alcohol is a big deal that should be taken seriously.

“They are a huge company and I want to make sure that the neighbors understand what is happening,” Solano said. “This is definitely different from if it were a mom-and-pop business.”

The committee is set to revisit the application in October, provided Starbucks does that door-knocking.



Photo by Jason Speakman

The first Williamsburg Starbucks on Union Avenue, pictured here, is set to soon be joined by a second, serving booze.

BP PARENT

On my way to happy

It is funny how important topics come up out of the blue with kids, on walks with the dog, for example. Someone on the sidewalk laughed out loud, prompting my sassy, straight-shooting nearly 11-year-old to look at me with a narrowed gaze, sizing me up.

“You laugh *really* loud, Mom,” he said.

My back stiffened as I braced against the criticism.

“Sorry,” I said. “Do I embarrass you?”

He scrunched up his face, confused.

“No!” he corrected me. “It’s a good thing. You’re really happy!”

His positive perspective warmed me. Excellent, I thought. But then it occurred to me just as it must have occurred to him. His tone was matter-of-fact rather than judgmental when he amended.

“Except when you’re not,” he said.

It was true. Painting a picture of me, head back, guffawing with great joy, would not be completely accurate, much as I’d like it to be. No. There was a darker side, mood swings (menstruation related or not) that left me forgetting how to laugh or wondering when that laughter would come again.

My boys knew it. They’d probably known it for a long



Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

time, but more recently I’d been less apt to hide my sad days, to always feel like I absolutely *had* to put on a happy face for them. For better or worse, they were growing up and there were certain facts they had to face, like that every moment isn’t blissful.

“It’s true,” I said. “But you always have to find your way back to happy, right?”

And that takes work — difficult work that I feel I am constantly teaching myself as much as my kids. Different things work at different times for different people, so it is not always easy to know what’s going to move the needle.

Here are a few things I try:

•**Accessorize:** Decking myself out in the morning with many dangling necklaces, big earrings, bangles, and rings is a surprisingly effective way to bring a smile to my face and, seemingly, to others (who may be laughing at me rather than with me, but I don’t really care.) My constantly replenished stock of cheap jewelry provides a

bit of upbeat armor to protect against the world’s ills. My boys might not do too much of the jewelry thing, but they often find hats or shoes or other little things that put some pizzazz in their step.

•**Socialize:** As a freelancer, I spend a lot of time alone and sometimes those thoughts that creep in can get dangerous. I try to call friends for coffee or even to get together to dance, and I often (when my mood gets particularly low) put together an invite for a big party. I encourage my kids to make plans with friends after school or on the weekends, to invite people instead of waiting to get invited. It is good to learn early in life how important it is to be proactive and get up the nerve to ask people and to face that potential rejection.

•**Exercise:** Exercise can help keep the load from getting too heavy. If I don’t move my muscles at a brisk pace — run or walk or stretch or lift — at least a little bit each day, I start to get stiff and very, very crabby. Some-

times, when I watch the marathon, I imagine it as one big throng of people physically and mentally pushing themselves to stay positive. But it doesn’t take going to extremes necessarily, just a little bit of exercise can lift my spirits, and I know that my good fitness habits get noticed by my kids.

•**Creative expression:** One of the big reasons that I started InspireCorps, an organization to bring inspirational artists into schools, is that artistic expression has always been a crucial way for me to feel better. Whether it’s through writing, playing piano, dancing, or even trying my hand at drawing with pastels, creative outlets offer freeing avenues for otherwise bottled-up emotions and make things suddenly not seem quite so bad.

When I think about the many ways I try to find my way back to happy, back to that loud, loud laugh, the list goes on and on. Hugging, hiking, baking, reading, nuzzling with my dog, great movies, museums — whatever it is, I have to find the things that work to bring me up when I’m down, and I coach my kids to do the same. The first step, of course, is to decide that happy is a place we want to be. As my own mother wisely advised me recently, “You have to look for solutions to find them.”

PORT...

Continued from page 1 said the Escape festival will take place as planned, but that his team won’t schedule any more without consulting the community.

“We are committed to not booking any more events until we talk to you again,” Greg Brayman said. “You will not

see another event until you see me again.”

Brayman emphasized that the terminal remains a working port operation despite having branched out into the music business, and claimed that the events don’t impact the everyday loading and unloading.

“There are some events here, but it is a marine facility,” he said. “Ninety nine point nine, nine, nine per-

cent of it is going to be an industrial facility.”

The Port Authority refused to say how much money, if any, it collects from the events, nor would it disclose whether the terminal usually accepts boats on weekends, which is when the Escape festival is scheduled, nor if boats will be turned away for the event.

Deputy Borough President Diana Reyna said in January

that residential conversions of industrial buildings are killing the borough’s economy and that she will fight to preserve what is left.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation listed Brooklyn’s industrial waterfront on its list of the 11 Most Endangered Historic Places in the nation back in 2007, citing poor public policy and development as its most pressing threats.

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Planned Service Changes



10 PM to 5 AM
Mon to Fri
Sep 29 – Oct 3

No trains between 95 St and 36 St, Brooklyn

Use free shuttle buses and **D **N** trains**

Travel alternatives:

- **R** service operates between **71 Av**, Queens and **36 St**, Brooklyn in both directions until approximately 11:45 PM.
- **R** trains skip **Union St**, **4 Av-9 St**, **Prospect Av**, and **25 St**, in both directions.
- Late night **R** shuttle service is suspended.
- Free shuttle buses operate between **95 St** and **59 St**, stopping at **86 St**, **77 St**, and **Bay Ridge Av**.
- **D** trains run local between **Atlantic Av-Barclays Ctr** and **36 St**.
- **N** trains run local between **Atlantic Av-Barclays Ctr** and **59 St**, in Brooklyn.
- Transfer between free shuttle buses and **N** trains at **59 St**.

Stay informed:

Call 511 and say “Current Service Status,” look for informational posters in stations, or visit mta.info where you can access the latest Planned Service Changes information, use TripPlanner⁺, and sign up for free email and text alerts.

###FASTRACK

